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# Wildcats need early Big 12 success to make strong bowl push

By Jon Garten  
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

Introducing your No. 22 K-State Wildcats.

That's right. The same team that surrendered 198 points in its last four games, actually made a Top 25 poll.

But it wasn't the Associated Press that ranked the Wildcats so high and it wasn't the coaches poll. The Wildcats were ranked No. 22 in the country by Playboy. Apparently K-State still has enough credibility to earn some love from one of America's favorite gentlemen's magazines.

While Playboy seems confident in K-State, the Wildcats face a challenging 2008 schedule. It will be crucial for K-State to steal an early Big 12 win and avoid an early conference losing streak.

**AUG. 30 NORTH TEXAS**

Don't laugh too hard at the Mean Green. This could be a tougher season opener for K-State than many people expect. Continuity could be an issue for the Wildcat defense. While K-State could start as many as six new defensive players, North Texas boasts an experienced offense that threw for nearly 300 yards a game in 2007.

**SEPT. 6 MONTANA STATE**

K-State picked up Montana State after ditching a matchup with Fresno State. This might be Ron Prince's smartest move as K-State's head coach. Fresno State beat the Wildcats 45-21 in 2004 and 45-29 in 2007. Montana State went 6-5 in 2007 while playing in the Big Sky Conference. Montana State's wide receivers coach is former K-State quarterback Jonathan Beasley.

**SEPT. 17 AT LOUISVILLE (ESPN 2)**

This is what Prince was hoping for when he installed his "Bold and Darling" scheduling philosophy. The chance to catch a name opponent during a



Coach **Ron Prince** and his Wildcats face a daunting Big 12 Conference schedule in 2008. Prince has a 4-2 record against the Big 12 South and a 3-7 record against the weaker Big 12 North.

down year on national television. The Cardinals went 6-6 during their first year without coach Bobby Petrino. A win here would make the Wildcats strong contenders for a bowl game.

**SEPT. 27 LOUISIANA-LAFAYETTE**

Anything less than a blowout here should cause concern in Wildcat Nation. The Ragin' Cajuns went 3-9 and gave up more than 35 points per game in 2007.

**OCT. 4 TEXAS TECH**

The good news for the Wildcats? They get to open up Big 12 play at home for the first time since 1998. The bad news is they have to play a Texas Tech squad that breaks NCAA passing records every year. K-State surrendered an average of 338 passing yards during its last four games of 2007. This one could get ugly.

**OCT. 11 AT TEXAS A&M**

With a murderous Big 12 schedule, stealing an early win could be vital to K-State's conference suc-



The Wildcats will need a victory against Texas A&M or Colorado to avoid an early Big 12 skid. After the Colorado game, K-State plays Oklahoma, Kansas and Missouri.

cess. Getting out of College Station, Texas, with a victory is never easy, but with the Aggies adjusting to new coach Mike Sherman, this could be the Wildcats' best shot. It's also worth noting that Prince has a 4-2 record against Big 12 South teams.

**OCT. 18 AT COLORADO**

If the Wildcats don't beat Texas A&M, this matchup with Colorado will be a must-win game. The competition only gets stingier from here on out. Prince has a 2-0 record against Colorado.

**OCT. 25 OKLAHOMA**

Prince has made a name for himself by flour-

ishing in games like this. Just ask the Longhorns. The Sooners have had their problems with lesser opponents as well. In 2007, OU lost to Colorado, 27-24, and in 2006 the Sooners were shocked by Boise State, 43-42, in the Fiesta Bowl. If K-State brings a solid game plan and Oklahoma brings a little too much bravado,

Prince could add the Sooners to his list of impressive victories.

**NOV. 1 AT KANSAS**

Don't be that guy. You know, the one who calls a 12-1 football team a fluke. Face it, the Jayhawks will be a force to be reckoned with for at least the foreseeable future. While KU probably will not match its success from last year, don't look for them to drop off too much. For the K-State crowd that believes beating the Jayhawks is the most important part of the K-State coaching job, this game carries extra weight. Prince is 0-2 against the Hawks.

**NOV. 8 AT MISSOURI**

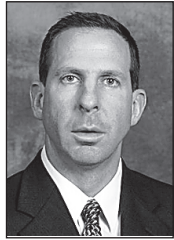
The Wildcats' tough Big 12 slate continues with another road game against one of the North's top teams. This might be one of those games where the Wildcats need to focus on the moral victories.

**NOV. 15 NEBRASKA**

Finally, a game that seems winnable. Despite getting drilled by the Huskers, 73-31, in 2007, K-State actually has a good chance in this one. Nebraska will be breaking in new coach Bo Pelini, and the Wildcats will be playing at home. If K-State can come into this game with five wins, Prince has a very good shot at getting his first win against Nebraska.

**NOV. 22 IOWA STATE**

Like the Nebraska game, K-State's chances in this one will hinge on what kind of state the Wildcats' record is in at this point in the season. While Prince has owned the Big 12 South, he only has a 3-7 record against the weaker North division. This is the type of game that the Wildcats need to win on a regular basis if Prince is going to succeed.



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# Recreation center, parks, trails offer fitness options to students

Ah, back to school. The end of summer often means the dawn of a lot more work and a lot less personal time. However, academic success should not mean the decline of one's health.

Freshmen have heard of the fateful "freshman 15," and the rest of us have come up against it more than just once. But the real secret to keeping in shape is to keep moving and stay active. If you find yourself enjoying a little bit of precious free time and want to spend it well, here are some options to keep in shape or to just have fun with your friends.

The Peters Recreation Complex is available to all K-State students with a student ID. What's more, your student fees already pay for the Rec. So grab some friends and check it out.

The Rec also offers swimming at the natatorium, which is a complex of three indoor pools: one for lap swim, a diving well and a third pool for water basketball or just hanging out with friends.

If the Rec gets crowded and you want a quieter workout experience, the LIFE fitness center in Ahearn Field House is the place to go. The LIFE program is run by the kinesiology department and open to all Manhattan residents and is not associat-

ed with Rec Services, so there is a fee to join. The LIFE program offers group fitness classes, as well as cardio and weight-training equipment.

When the weather is nice and you'd rather spend your time outdoors, or if treadmills just aren't really your thing, you can check out one of Manhattan's many parks and enjoy the sunshine. Some of Manhattan's most popular spots include:

City Park, (located just south of Aggieville) which has a one-mile footpath around its perimeter. It also boasts tennis courts and a playground and lots of room for playing Frisbee or catch with your friends.

The Konza Prairie, located on McDowell Creek Road just off Kansas Highway 177, is the perfect place for a hike. It has 2.4-, 4.4- and 6-mile trails, all of which are surrounded by beautiful scenery and wildlife. The trails are hilly, so make sure to wear good shoes and bring some water or something else to drink.

My personal favorite, Linear Park, also called Linear trail, is a 15-mile path around the city of Manhattan. With optional loops around other parks or area neighborhoods, the trail can be extended for more than 20 miles for the serious biker or runner. It can also be shortened by only using half or less of the trail for those who would like to experience the trail but don't have the time or energy for a full 15 miles. With many entry points around Manhattan and lots of great scen-

ery, this is a trail that many should experience, but few know exactly where it is.

The easiest way to access the trail is on Manhattan Avenue, just south of Fort Riley Boulevard. Immediately after the train tracks on the left is a small parking lot and the east loop of the trail. If you continue straight across the bridge, then curve around and under the bridge, you'll head west on the trail. This loop takes you past Carmike Cinemas and to Anderson Avenue, just west of Seth Child.

With all of these great options for fun and fitness, you can forget about boredom and weight gain and focus on all of those school-year commitments. You'll also be more alert and energized. So why wait? Take a break and explore Manhattan.

Sarah Hurd is a senior in kinesiology. Please send your comments to [opinion@spub.ksu.edu](mailto:opinion@spub.ksu.edu).

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Photos by Nathaniel LaRue | COLLEGIAN

The Peters Recreation Complex is located next to Bill Snyder Family Stadium and furnishes students with state of the art exercise machines and facilities. The facility membership fees are included in students' campus privilege fees each semester.

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Nathaniel LaRue | COLLEGIAN  
Mike Katt (left), sophomore in marketing, and Jace Gibbs (right), junior in agricultural economics, decide what books they need for their upcoming classes. Varney's bookstore has two locations, one in the student union and another in Aggieville with both locations serving students needs to purchase textbooks.

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# Honesty is the best policy when living with friends

The summer before moving into the residence halls, your mailbox is flooded with information meant to make the transition easier. Suggestions on what to bring, what to leave behind, lists and guidelines that seem to do everything but drive you to class will be shared with you.

However, it is impossible for a sheet of paper to clue someone in on how to live with roommates.

I had been close with my friends Robyn and Joanna since junior high. After years of making memories, it seemed natural to continue our fun in a new location, away from the eyes of parents. We decided to live together in the dorms.

We bought complementing bedspreads, coordinated who would bring the mini-fridge and gushed about how we would all triple-date when our respective boyfriends came to visit.

Others warned us about the dangers of living together, and the damage it could do to our friendship.

We quickly discarded any such advice – we were BFFs. The three of us moved in to our three-person suite in an all-girls dorm, and for the first few months, it was some of the most fun I’ve ever had.

Then, late in the semester, Robyn decided K-State wasn’t for her, and she transferred to a different school.

Over Christmas break, I broke up with my boyfriend. When I came back to K-State, Joanna and I met our new third roommate, Kershana.

Kershana loved to go out, and I was happy to accompany her. The tension between Joanna and I started when she saw the fun Kershana and I were having being single, while she had a boyfriend that couldn’t come see her very often.

I started dating a new guy, and Kershana and Joanna seemed happy to have him around. Then, Joanna’s boyfriend joined the military and was set to go overseas, and my boyfriend began spending more time hanging out with me and my

roommates in our room. I noticed that Joanna began to leave more often when he came over, but she never mentioned anything to me about it.

One day, our resident assistant showed up at our door and told me Joanna had voiced concerns to her about the amount of time my boyfriend was spending there, and that he was disturbing her as she worked. I was confused. He usually just watched movies with us or did homework, and she hadn’t said anything to me. Was something else behind this?

Later, the four of us were watching TV before going out. My boyfriend and I left, and when I saw Kershana later she angrily explained that Joanna had told her my boyfriend had said derogatory things about her while Kershana was out of the room earlier.

This was untrue, and I couldn’t figure out why Joanna would lie to our roommate. But, stupidly, I was afraid to confront Joanna, so I just did my best to smooth things over and went on.

Soon, Joanna and I were hardly speaking. I felt awkward hanging out in our room, so I was hardly there. The few times I was, Joanna would usually leave. Kershana felt pulled between the two of us, so I tried to handle it on my own. Throughout this ordeal, Joanna and I still had not said one word to each other about it.

One day when my boyfriend and I were watching TV in the room by ourselves, the RA came to us again with a report from Joanna that my boyfriend had been taking naps during the day in the room. I laughed, but I was sternly informed that men were not allowed to do any kind of sleeping in our dorm.

Later that day, Joanna came into our room, visibly upset. I decided it was time to air things out, but when I begged her to talk to me about everything, she simply gave me a fake smile as she packed a bag.

I reminded her how long we had been friends, but nothing worked. Without a word, one week before finals, she left our room for good.



Molly Miller | COLLEGIAN

Since that last day together, I have not seen Joanna again. I believe she was understandably upset by the lack of time she got to spend with her boyfriend, while I was able to flaunt my new relationship around whenever I wanted. But instead of being mature and talking, we chose to ignore our problems and let them get worse.

Friends that have been together as long as Joanna and I had should have been able to get past this. A simple conversation could have saved my relationship with my best friend.

This is not to say that friends who have known each other for a while should not live together – it just goes to show that sometimes you have to work a little harder to keep a friendship intact.

Remember: you were friends before you were roommates, and that will always be more important.

Be open, be honest, and most importantly, be a good friend.

Megan Molitor is a senior in electronic journalism. Please send comments to [opinion@pub.ksu.edu](mailto:opinion@pub.ksu.edu).

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# Fall semester’s Aug. 25 start date is latest since 2002

By Owen Kennedy  
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

This fall’s start date is the latest start at K-State in six years, but the semester will still have the same number of class days.

The semester’s Monday, Aug. 25 start is the latest since fall 2002, when the semester began on Monday, Aug. 26. University Registrar Monty Nielsen said the start dates for fall and spring semesters are determined years in advance and must meet certain criteria.

“It’s not just an arbitrary number,” Nielsen said.

He said the Calendar Committee determines the university calendar about three years in advance. The university calendar follows 14 guidelines approved by the Faculty Senate in October 2003.

Since the fall start date was determined long before the semester begins, Nielsen said the later date was not a response to the tornado that hit Manhattan on June 11 and damaged some buildings on campus.

“It had absolutely nothing to do with it,” Nielsen said.

Had the tornado affected Manhattan later in the summer, Nielsen said, the start of the semester could have been altered, a decision he said would be made by high-level university administrators, including President Jon Wefald.

Derek Jackson, associate director of administrative services and resident life, said the opening of the residence halls also was not changed because of the tornado but was determined by different guidelines than the class-start date.

“It’s all about what can you do here and not here,” he said.

Technology has allowed students to do more of the move-in steps off campus, Jackson said.

With fewer tasks to do on campus, students do not have to move in too long before the start of class. But Jackson said the move-in date might occur more than two or three days before class in the future.

“Next year this may be

completely different,” he said.

Factors like sorority recruitment, the football season, international students and the marching band could require the residence halls to open earlier to accommodate students, he said.

These factors do not affect the university calendar, however, because it must go through a longer process.

Nielsen said a calendar including six future semesters – in this case, fall 2008 to spring 2011 – must be approved by the Calendar Committee, of which he is the not-voting chair, then the Faculty Senate Executive Committee, the entire Faculty Senate, and the University Provost. Final approval must come from the Board of Regents.

The first guideline that the Calendar Committee considers states: “Fall semester begins in August on a Monday, 10 days following the last class day of the summer semester.”

The summer 2008 semester ended on Friday, Aug. 15.

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# Residence halls to sponsor welcome-back events for students

**By Hannah Blick**  
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

Though incoming freshmen and transfer students' lives at K-State might seem spontaneous at first, residence hall staffs have been preparing for their residents' arrivals since last semester.

Several residence halls will start the fall 2008 semester with welcome events this weekend.

**HAYMAKER AND FORD HALLS OPENING BARBECUE**

It has been tradition for Haymaker and Ford halls to collaborate for a back-to-school event for about the last six years, said Brian Jaworski, resident life coordinator of Haymaker Hall.

From 5-7 p.m., Sunday, on the Haymaker front lawn, the Haymaker and Ford resident assistants, multi-cultural assistants and hall governing

boards will sponsor an opening barbecue for all of the halls' residents, Jaworski said.

He also said there will be a sno cone machine, an oversized basketball game played with a giant, inflatable basketball and plenty of opportunities for students to socialize. There will also be vegetarian options.

**KRAMER COMPLEX WELCOME-BACK BARBECUE**

Located on the opposite end of campus from both the Derby and Strong complexes, the Kramer complex, consisting of Marlatt and Goodnow halls, also like to make their residents feel welcome with a barbecue dinner, said Kip Van Dyke, RLC of Marlatt and Goodnow.

The barbecue will take place from 5-7 p.m. on Sunday, on the front lawns of each respective hall, Van Dyke said.

"We encourage all our residents

to come for some free food and a chance to get to know each other," he said.

**STRONG COMPLEX WELCOME-BACK DINNER**

The Strong complex, which consists of Putnam, Van Zile and Boyd halls, will sponsor a welcome-back dinner starting at 5:30 p.m. on Sunday, in the complex's courtyard, said Maggie Higgins, RLC in Putnam.

She said the event is open to all residents in the Strong complex, and students will be served sandwiches and drinks, free of charge.


There will be socializing and pick-up basketball games for residents to join in on and meet other students in their hall.

"We also have a newly renovated courtyard, so we're excited to show that off," Higgins said. "We're hoping all our residents will come - it's a great chance to get to meet everyone."

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information on upcoming events in the residence halls, visit [www.housing.ksu.edu](http://www.housing.ksu.edu), or contact K-State housing and dining services at 785-532-6453.

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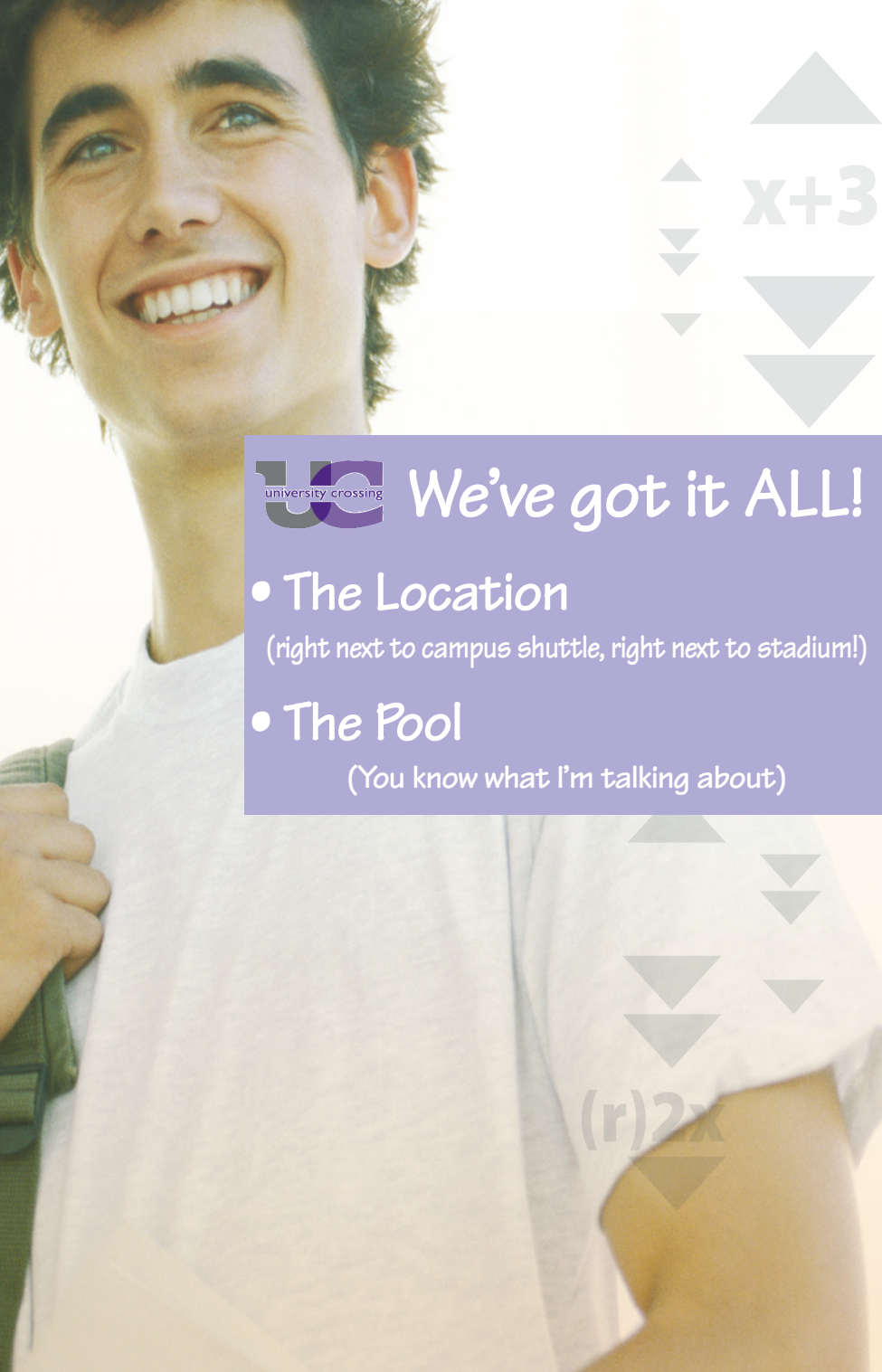
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